(d) what, remedial measures have been taken by Government to ease the situation and to give relief to the copper industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRl MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) to (d) During the months of October to December 1988, there was a sudden spurt in the demand for copper on account of rising trend in prices of copper in the international market. With reduction in the import duty of copper with effect from 23-12-1988 from 95 per cent *advalorem* to Rs. 10,500 per tonne (.basic duty) plus 30 per cent *advalorem* (auxil lary duty) as well as declining trend in the international market, the demand for copper started declining in January, 1989. At present, both Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL), the sole indigenous producer, and Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC), the canalising agency, have adequate stocks to meet the requirement of the actual users of the metal.

The total production of indigenous copper including toll smelted copper during 1986-87 1987-88 and 1988-89 (upto January' *89)* are indicated beiow:

| Year | Production (including toll-smelted copper) (In tonnes) |
|---|---|
| 1986-87 | 44,563 |
| 1987-88. | 42,134 |
| 1988-89. (Apr '88—Jan '89) | 46,830 |

, Imports of copper by MMTC during the last 3 years are as follows:

| | Imports (in tonnes) |
|---|---|
| 1986-87. | 43,741 |
| 1987-88. | 80,525 |
| 1988-89. (Provisional) | 64,550 |

Government are keeping a watch on availability of copper in the country in view of highly volatile and speculative nature of this commodity in the international market.

**Development of Yamuna river for recreational activities**

@2556. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA;

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT 'be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan for the development of the Yamuna river in Delhi for recreational activities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRl DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) A study to examine possibility of channelising the river flow and conserving the maximum land mass for various uses has been entrusted by the DDA to the Central Water Power Research Station (CWPRS), Poona at an estimated cost of about Rs. 50 lakhs. National Commissio|n on wages, Income and Price Policy

@ @2557. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU; Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a National Commission on Wages Incomes and Price Policy with a mandate to give the country a realistic wage policy that will strike a proper balance between the wages in the organised and unorganised sector; and

(b) if so, by when?

@ Previously Unstarred Question 1634, *transferred from trie* 9th March, 1989. @(u;Previously Unstarred Question 1723, transferred from the 9th March, 1989.